

likely to meet, the standards of the BHC Act.

Any comments must be submitted in writing and received by William W. Wiles, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C. 20551, not later than February 13, 1997.

This application may be inspected at the offices of the Board of Governors or the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 24, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-2284 Filed 1-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies That Are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.25) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the notice has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act, including whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party

commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than February 13, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Lois Berthaume, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2713:

1. *Republic Bancshares, Inc.*, St. Petersburg, Florida; to acquire Firststate Financial, F.A., Orlando, Florida, and thereby engage in operating a savings association, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(9) of the Board's Regulation Y. The proposed activity will be conducted throughout the State of Florida.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 24, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-2282 Filed 1-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m. (EST), February 10, 1997.

PLACE: 4th Floor, Conference Room 4506, 1250 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of the minutes of the January 13, 1997, Board member meeting.
2. Thrift Savings Plan activity report by the Executive Director.
3. Review of investment policy.
4. Review of KPMG Peat Marwick audit report: "Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration Review of Thrift Savings Plan C and F Fund Investment Management Operations at Barclays Global Investors, N.A."

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Thomas J. Trabucco, Director, Office of External Affairs, (202) 942-1640.

Dated: January 28, 1997.

Roger W. Mehle,

Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

[FR Doc. 97-2461 Filed 1-28-97; 2:46 pm]

BILLING CODE 6760-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Advisory Committees; Notice of Meetings

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces forthcoming meetings of public advisory committees of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This notice also summarizes the procedures for the meetings and methods by which interested persons may participate in open public hearings before FDA's advisory committees.

FDA has established an Advisory Committee Information Hotline (the hotline) using a voice-mail telephone system. The hotline provides the public with access to the most current information on FDA advisory committee meetings. The advisory committee hotline, which will disseminate current information and information updates, can be accessed by dialing 1-800-741-8138 or 301-443-0572. Each advisory committee is assigned a 5-digit number. This 5-digit number will appear in each individual notice of meeting. The hotline will enable the public to obtain information about a particular advisory committee by using the committee's 5-digit number. Information in the hotline is preliminary and may change before a meeting is actually held. The hotline will be updated when such changes are made.

MEETINGS: The following advisory committee meetings are announced:

Arthritis Advisory Committee

Date, time, and place. February 4, 1997, 8:30 a.m., and February 5, 1997, 8 a.m., Gaithersburg Hilton, Ballroom, 620 Perry Pkwy., Gaithersburg, MD.

Type of meeting and contact person. Open public hearing, February 4, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., unless public participation does not last that long; open committee discussion, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; open public hearing, February 5, 1997, 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., unless public participation does not last that long; open committee discussion, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Kathleen R. Reedy or LaNise S. Giles, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (HFD-21), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-443-5455, FAX: 301-443-0699, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Hotline, 1-800-741-8138 (301-443-0572 in the Washington, DC area), Arthritis